



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
18.04.2007 Bulletin 2007/16

(51) Int Cl.:
G06K 7/00 (2006.01) **G08B 13/24** (2006.01)
G07F 7/00 (2006.01) **G06K 19/077** (2006.01)
G07G 1/00 (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:
04.04.2007 Bulletin 2007/14

(21) Application number: **06026302.7**

(22) Date of filing: **05.08.1999**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE

(30) Priority: **14.08.1998 US 134686**
25.06.1999 US 344758

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
99943652.0 / 1 105 855

(71) Applicant: **3M Innovative Properties Company**
Saint Paul, MN 55133-3427 (US)

(72) Inventors:
• **Garber, Sharon R.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
• **Gonzalez, Bernard A.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)

- **Grunes, Mitchell B.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Jackson, Richard H.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Karel, Gerald L.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Kruse, John M.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Lindahl, Richard W.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Nash, James E.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Piotrowski, Chester**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)
- **Yorkovich, John D.**
Minnesota 55133-3427 (US)

(74) Representative: **Vossius & Partner**
Siebertstrasse 4
81675 München (DE)

(54) **RFID reader**

(57) The invention relates to a portable RFID reader comprising an RFID interrogator, an antenna, and a processor, wherein to operating range of the reader is restricted so that the reader only interrogates RFID tags that are at a closer range than in the absence of to restriction, wherein the operating range of the reader is restricted by restricting the output power of the RFID reader.

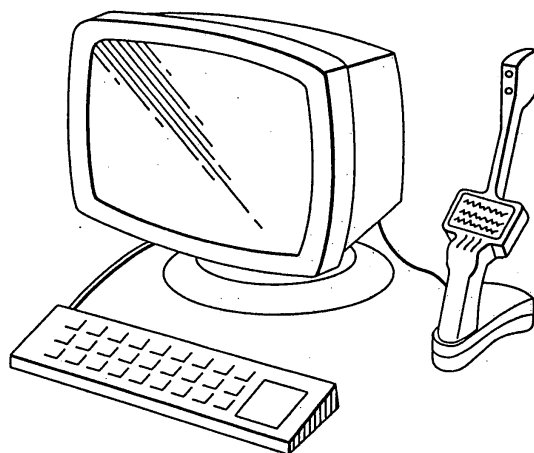


Fig. 14



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 06 02 6302

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	EP 0 301 127 A1 (TEXAS INSTRUMENTS DEUTSCHLAND [DE]) 1 February 1989 (1989-02-01) * the whole document * -----	1-5	INV. G06K7/00 G08B13/24 G07F7/00 G06K19/077 G07G1/00
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G06K G08B G07F G06F G07G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 19 February 2007	Examiner Schmidt, Rainer
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

3
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 06 02 6302

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

19-02-2007

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0301127	A1	01-02-1989	AT 98025 T 15-12-1993
			AU 610210 B2 16-05-1991
			AU 2020688 A 02-02-1989
			CA 1295718 C 11-02-1992
			CH 676511 A5 31-01-1991
			DE 3788348 D1 13-01-1994
			DE 3788348 T2 17-03-1994
			DE 301127 T1 24-08-1989
			DK 425088 A 01-02-1989
			ES 2008655 T3 01-02-1994
			FI 883575 A 01-02-1989
			JP 1112186 A 28-04-1989
			JP 2823208 B2 11-11-1998
			NO 883344 A 01-02-1989
			US 5053774 A 01-10-1991
